

REMARKS

Claims 25-44 are now pending in the application. Claims 25-43 were rejected. Claims 31 and 44 are objected to. Applicant thanks the Examiner for his courtesies extended to Applicant's attorney Elizabeth D. Odell in a telephonic interview held October 28, 2008. During the interview, the Examiner's rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and 35 U.S.C. § 101 was discussed. Claim 38 also was discussed. Although agreement was not reached as to claim 25, the Examiner made several suggestions as to how claim 25 might be amended to obviate the rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and 35 U.S.C. § 101. General agreement was reached regarding amendment of claim 38.

During a telephonic interview held October 30, 2008, the Examiner and Applicant's attorney came to general agreement as to amendment of claim 25. On October 30, 2008 the Examiner faxed a proposed Examiner's amendment to Applicant's attorney. Applicant has amended the claims in substantial accordance with the Examiner's amendment, with several minor changes. Applicant again thanks the Examiner for his courtesies and careful attention to the claims. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and following remarks.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that claims 31 and 44 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claim 25 to include the recitations of claim 31 dependent on claim 25. Claim 31 has been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits

that claim 25, and claims 26-30 and 32 dependent on claim 25, should now be in condition for allowance. Applicants have also amended claim 38 to include the recitations of claim 44 dependent on claim 38. Claim 44 has been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 25-30, 32 and 38-43 should now be in condition for allowance.

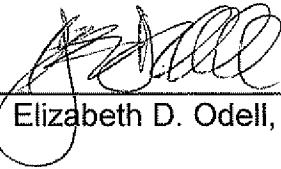
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7521.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 31, 2008

By:


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